KOKUYO



# INTEGRATED REPORT 2024

Kokuyo Group Integrated Report













Value System

#### The future we imagine

A self-directed, collaborative society

## Values

Co-creation with empathy

Culture of experimentation

Designing experiences

#### Purpose

Presenting a tomorrow you can't wait for.

#### Vision for 2030

WORK & LIFE STYLE Company

Shift to the "Forest-Like Management Model"



## be Unique.

Stimulate creativity and celebrate uniqueness.

#### The future we imagine

The future we imagine is one in which diverse values are respected, in which personal fulfillment is balanced with helping and supporting others, in which everyone lives life to the full, and in which people are connected in their work life, study life, and private life—a circular economy and a harmonious society. This is the future society we want to help build, and we have named it the "self-directed, collaborative society."

#### Values

To present a future you can't wait for, we have cultivated three strengths. The first is co-creation with empathy, the ability to empathize with customers' issues and co-create value with customers. The second is our ability to design experiences—in other words, to visualize customers' experiences. The third is our culture of experimentation, in which we keep trying out new ideas, without fear of failure. We want our products and services to deliver experiences that inspire creativity and empower uniqueness. We want to co-create new value for a better tomorrow.

#### Purpose

Our vision of a self-directed, collaborative society is no easy feat. The world has grown more complex than ever and we may always face uncertainties and fears about the future. Nonetheless, we believe that a better tomorrow will come if creativity and diversity are flourish. That is why we keep pitching new ways of working and living—a future you can't wait for. We want people to live free, creative, and more authentic lives, unbound by the past. We will always accompany our customers as they take on their own personal challenges.

#### Vision for 2030

Our long-term vision, CCC 2030,\* sets out the goal of reaching 500 billion yen in net sales by 2030 through the Forest-Like Management Model. The most important task in this vision is to become a diverse ecosystem of businesses for sustainable growth. To that end, we commit to a fundamental transformation of our corporate culture, our organizational approaches (including human resources), and our way of empowering individuals.

\*CCC stands for "change, challenge, create."

#### Our philosophy

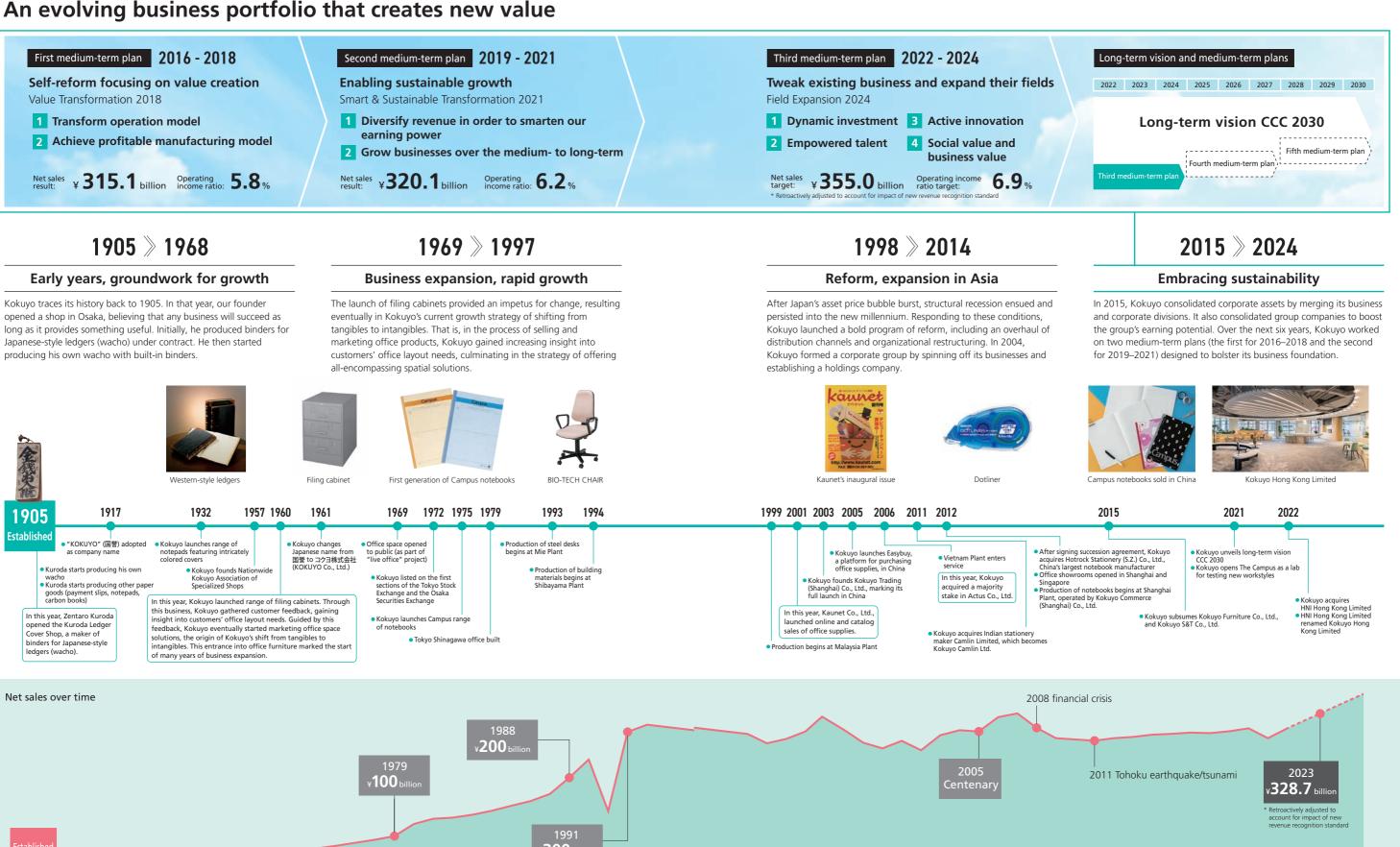
Ever since its foundation, Kokuyo has always followed a philosophy of making a positive impact through its products. While this philosophy remains central to our entrepreneurial spirit, we now use the phrase "Be Unique" to express our philosophy and value-creating ethos in a way that is relevant to today's challenges, in a world that is undergoing tumultuous changes. "Be Unique" expresses the idea that we produce products and services that deliver experience value, inspiring creativity and empower uniqueness.



Value Creation Strategy Introduction Governance

## **Path of Business Growth**

### An evolving business portfolio that creates new value



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Value Creation Governance Introduction Introduction Strategy

#### **Business Fields**

To achieve our long-term vision CCC 2030, we have redefined our role as that of a work and lifestyle company. This means that we will now transcend our traditional categories of furniture and stationery and create solutions for a more abundant life. To reflect this redefined role, we have reorganized our four business segments into two "fields": the Workstyle Field and the Lifestyle Field.

## **WORK STYLE**

Work Workstyle Field



## LIFE STYLE

Learning, daily life Lifestyle Field



#### **Furniture Businesses**

In Japan and overseas (primarily, China and ASEAN), we sell office furniture such as desks and chairs. We also provide consulting services for office design and workstyle solutions and deliver setup

Our immediate focus is to establish sustained performance by capitalizing on demand for new office builds accompanying the supply of large office blocks in the Greater Tokyo Area and by winning contracts for office renovations designed to accommodate changes in workstyles.

Our future focus is to expand the reach of this business field. To that end, we will expand our office-space lineup, including timber products, digital services, and office setup services, and expand into new Asian markets and markets in other regions.

Japanese furniture business

Overseas furniture business





#### FY2023 results

¥154.4 billion

YoY change: Up **14.5**%

Operating income

¥22.4 billion

YoY change: Up **35.9**%

#### **Business Supply Distribution**

We have a wholesaling business and office mail order (or online shopping) business in which we sell office-ware such as stationery.

Our immediate focus is to improve revenue and profit by growing the customer base. To that end, we are strengthening e-marketing amid the rise of e-commerce, which was prompted by the pandemic.

Our future focus is to introduce a solutions system for largescale clients that will make the purchasing process more efficient and better suited to diversified workplaces and that will offer a wider lineup. In expanding our lineup, we will channel our direct marketing function. We will also enhance our Group's marketing function

#### E-commerce / mail order, Kaunet





#### FY2023 results

Net sales

¥**97.8** billion

YoY change: Up **2.6**%

Operating income

¥**3.8** billion

YoY change: Up 19.1%

#### **Stationery Businesses**

As a manufacturer of general stationery products, including notebooks and files, we sell stationery in Japan and overseas through a wide range of distribution channels.

Our immediate focus is to reform the business structure to enable a full-scale global expansion of the business, with an eye on the growing market for value-added stationery that aligns with people's desire for self-expression (on social media, for example).

We have achieved success in marketing stationery and other items as lifestyle goods to secondary-school girls in China. Our future focus is to expand the reach of the business field by expanding from China to other Asian markets and winning new audiences there.

Japanese stationery business

Overseas stationery business





#### FY2023 results

¥**83.8** billion

YoY change: Up **6.9**%

Operating

¥6.8 billion

YoY change: Up **0.2**%

#### **Interior Retail Businesses**

Through Actus, a subsidiary in which we first invested in 2006, we operate a furniture wholesale and retail business, which includes brick-and-mortar stores and an online store (Actus Online). Actus has a popular chain of interior décor stores for the general public. The stores feature elegant Scandinavian furniture along with original brands of high-quality goods, including furniture, household goods, curtains, and kitchen units.

Our immediate focus is to develop a marketing strategy that integrates Actus Online with the offline Actus stores in order to capitalize on new home life needs amid the burgeoning demand for interior goods.

Our future focus is to increase the relative share of online sales and expand the reach of the field with an eye on the rising demand for online shopping, which was prompted by the pandemic.

#### ACTUS





#### FY2023 results

¥20.3 billion

YoY change: 3.2%

Operating

¥**0.6** billion

YoY change: Down **35.8**%

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#### **Message From the Editing Team**

## Clarifying how our strategies are linked to our strengths

To give stakeholders a good idea about how Kokuyo is growing and creating new value, this third integrated report reviews our performance in FY2023, identifies problems, and includes information about 2024 (the final year of the third mediumterm plan), namely the progress we are making and the tasks we must address to achieve our goals. We have tried to communicate in a clearer and more logically cogent manner the steps toward the fourth medium-term plan, the strategies we are pursuing to achieve our long-term vision, and the future outlook.

What we have tried to emphasize in particular are Kokuyo's strengths—the source of our value creation. We have three strengths: co-creation with customers, creativity-inspiring technology, and human capital. We show what strategies we are taking with respect to each strength and cite examples of the outcomes these strategies are delivering.

#### **Key points**

- We created a more compelling Value Creation Story to make our internal and external stakeholders feel more convinced and confident.
- We have included messages from the CEO and other executive officers to give a clearer idea about the three strengths.

Message from the CEO, interviews

 We placed greater emphasis on stakeholder communication in sustainable management and in our materiality action, which are our long-term endeavors.

Commitment to our materiality, stakeholder dialogues

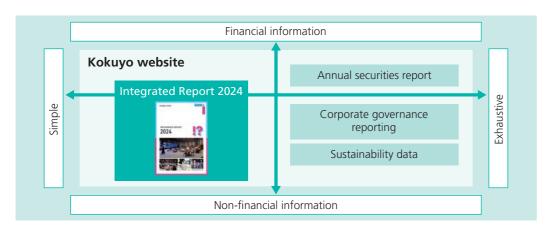
#### Period to which this report pertains

This report pertains to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, but it also includes information that predates or postdates that fiscal year.

## Disclaimer on forward-looking statements

This report contains performance forecasts and other forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on information available and on assumptions considered reasonable at the time of compilation. They should NOT be taken as assurances that the forward-looking statements will prove accurate. Actual results or future events could diverge markedly from forecasts for a variety of reasons.

#### **Disclosures**



Main content	
Integrated reporting (this report)	Systematic reporting about our business activities and the value we deliver to society
Corporate governance reporting	Corporate governance information that we file to the TSE in accordance with the Corporate Governance Code Includes our approach to corporate governance and information about our corporate governance structures
Sustainability data	Detailed ESG data (detailed data on environmental, social, and governance aspects of sustainability) (https://www.kokuyo.co.jp/sustainability/index.html)

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